



COMBLER

Ka

ke

gu

CHAPTERS
37 & 38

KAGEROU PROJECT
YOSHIKI KAWAMOTO
YOSHINOBU NAKAMURA

ru

i



**LET
ME GO
FIRST!**

**I CAN'T
HOLD
IT ANY
LONGER!**

**THAT'S
FINE,
RIGHT?
YOU MADE
ME WAIT
THIS
LONG...**



**OK-
RIGHT!**
**THANKS
MAMA!**
♡

**ALL
RIGHT. GO
AHEAD AND
MAKE THE
FIRST CUT,
IKISHIMA-
SAMA.**



**IT'S THE
SAME
THING
EITHER
WAY.**

**...SURE.
GO
AHEAD.**

CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN, ATTEMPTED GIRL

KAKI GURU

—Compulsive Gambler—

STORY
HOMURAKAWAMOTO
ART
TORIINAOMURA



OOH,
WHICH
SHOULD
I CUT?



YUME-
KO...



I
WETTE
FLEX
EASER,
CARE-
FULLY.

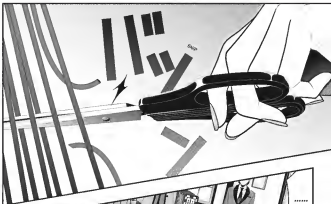
SOMEONE'S
FINGER
COULD BE
KIDNEY ON
TASTE!



BN-
HEN...

THIS
IS TOO
MUCH.





HMM! A
"MISS,"
THEN?



NOBODY
YET,
THOUGH,
HMM?

IF
YOU'RE
GIVING
UP, TAKE
YOUR
FINGER
OUT
AT ANY
TIME.



SAFE,
HMM
...?

SH-HMM!
GUESS
THAT'S
20-TO-1
ODDS
FOR YA.



YOU
CAN'T REST
EASY JUST
BECAUSE
THERE
ARE MANY
STRINGS
LEFT.

YOU NEVER
KNOW WHEN
THAT MOMENT
MIGHT OCCUR.



OKAY!

NEXT,
THEN!

YUMIKO
JABAMI-
SAMA,
YOU'RE
UP.



...HERE
I GO.

WELL...

I'D HATE
IF THIS
ENDED
WHILE I
WASN'T
LOOKING!

EH-
HEH!
YOU
SAID
IT!

I
HEAR
YOU.





"WHY" ...?

WHY DID YOU JOIN THIS GAMBLE, ANYWAY?



YEAH ...





...I WANT
TO SEE
SOME REAL
BULLYING
NOW...



SHE'S
REALLY BEEN
TEASING ME,
SO...



I'M NOT
GONNA
BITCH
IF YOU
SNIP
THE
RIGHT
CORD,
OKAY!?

GO
ON!
DO
IT!

...WHAT?



あまの
あまの
THROB

YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO SO
KINDLY
PREPARED
THIS STAGE
FOR ME,
ANYWAY!

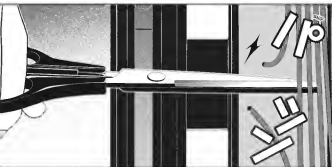


OOH!



OOH...

...YOU
DON'T
NEED
TO
TELL
ME.





AN-
OTHER
MISS!

THIS
IS SO
GREAT!

EH-
HEH!



HEE
HEE!
THIS IS
NICE.

IT'S
FUN TO
FEEL THE
DANGER
GROW WITH
EACH
MOVE.
♡



NO
DIIIIICE!

F



...I
SEE.

WELL,
WHO'S
TO SAY,
HMM?

WE'RE
MORE
ALIKE
THAN I
THOUGHT,
HUM?

OH, YOU
THINK
SO TOO,
YUMIKO?



AFTER
ALL...

AND I'LL
GLADLY
VIEW THE
PROCEEDINGS
FROM MY
SAFE HAVEN.



THIS PAIR
AT LEAST
HAS THE
COURAGE
TO BLUFF.



HEE
HEE!

BUT
HOW
LONG
CAN THEY
KEEP
THE
SHOW
UP?

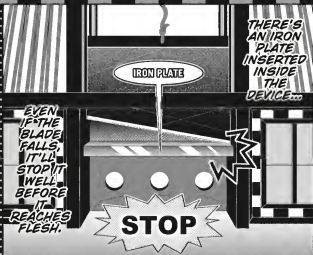
IN
THIS GAME,
THE TERROR
RATCHETS UP
WITH EVERY
MOVE.



**...THIS
GUILLOTINE
IS
DESIGNED...**

**...NEVER
TO CUT OFF
ANYBODY'S
FINGER!**





THERE'S
AN IRON
PLATE
INSERTED
INSIDE
THE
DEVICE...

IRON PLATE

EVEN
IF THE
BLADE
FALLS,
IT'LL
STOP IT
WELL
BEFORE
IT
REACHES
FLESH.

STOP



I'M SURE
INAHU
YAMATO,
THE
"DEALER,"
NOTICED
THIS
WHEN SHE
CHECKED
THE
BLADE.

I GUESS
SHE REALLY
IS STAYING
NEUTRAL.
AS LONG AS
IT DOESN'T
BREAK THE
RULES, IT'S
FINE BY
HER.

FAIR
ENOUGH!



BUT THIS
ISN'T A
FRAUD
EITHER.

IT DOESN'T
VIOLATE
ANY OF THE
RULES WE
DISCUSSED.
THE BLADE
DOESN'T CUT
THROUGH,
BUT IT STILL
FALLS.



EVEN IF YOU
HOLD OUT
UNTIL THE
BLADE FALLS,
THE WORST
THAT'LL
HAPPEN IS
A TIE.

SO IT'S
SAFE TO
CONCLUDE

...

I'LL JUST
SIT HERE
AND SEE
IF YOU'VE
GOT THE
GUTS TO
MAKE
IT THAT
FAR...



...THAT
NEITHER OF
YOU HAVE A
CHANCE AT
WINNING!



...DAAH!
ANOTHER
MISS.

I'M
GONNA GO
CRAZY IF
THIS THING
DOESN'T
FALL
SOON!



I'LL
TRY MY
BEST!

...TEE
HEE!

YOU
GOTTA SNIP
THE RIGHT
ONE FOR
ME!
PLEASE,
YUNO!



YOU
KNOW...



WHICH
ONE'S THE
RIGHT
STRING. I
WONDER?



EH-
HEH!
SHE'S
RIGHT.
WHAT'D
YOU
EVEN
USE
THIS
FOR?

YOU
MUST'VE
HAD IT IN
YOUR POS-
SESSION.
THERE
WASN'T
ENOUGH
TIME TO
CON-
STRUCT
IT.



...REALLY
KNOW
NOTHING,
DON'T
YOU?

YOU...



...WHY DO
YOU POSSESS
SUCH A
WONDERFUL
DEVICE IN THE
FIRST PLACE?



...IS THE
MUSHIBAMI
FAMILY
BUSINESS.

TORTURE...



BUT HOW LONG
CAN YOU HOLD
OUT, HMM?

I CAN'T
WAIT
TO
SEE...

SHUFFLING THE
STRINGS, ONE
BY ONE, IN
ORDER...

USING
THIS ON
SOME-
ONE...

...WHY,
IT'D MAKE
ANYONE
SING LIKE
A BIRD.



SURE
ARE A LOT
OF WEIRD
JOBS OUT
THERE,
HUH?

OOH!



...BUT IT
WOULDN'T
STOP YOU.

AM I
RIGHT?

YOU'D
HAVE NO
COMPLAINTS
IF SOMEONE
TURNED
THE TABLES
ON YOU...

...ESPE-
CIALLY
FOR THIS
MASSIVE
ELECTION.



YA-
MATO-
SAN...

HUH?

YES!

IT'S
NOT THAT
YOU DON'T
CARE IF
YOU LOSE A
FINGER...

BUT
IN
THAT
CASE,
THIS'LL
BE
EASY.





**YOU DID
REMOVE
IT FOR
US,
RIGHT?**



...OH!



WHAT?



**WHOA,
WHOA,
WHAT'RE
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?**

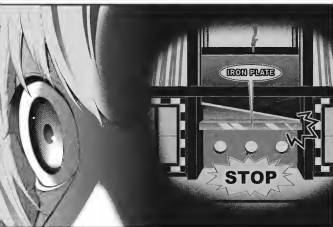
**WELL,
SUPERB.**

**THAT
GOES
WITHOUT
SAYING!**

**DON'T
LEAVE
ME IN
THE
DARK,
GIRL!**

**NOW I
CAN ENJOY
THIS MATCH
WHOLE-
HEARTEDLY!**

**THAT'S
MY JOB,
AFTER
ALL!**







THAT'S
AWESOME!

HURRY
UP AND
MAKE A
MOVE!

YOU'RE
UP NEXT,
MUSHI-
BAMI.



...TO
MANGLE
MY FINGER
WITHOUT
A SECOND
THOUGHT!/?

DOES
THAT
MEAN
YOU'RE
WILLING...

TORTURE
IS YOUR
JOB!/?

WHAT
A STORY
THAT IS,
THOUGH!



COME
ON...

COME
ON!!





**READY
TO
FEED
THE
ADDIC-
TION?**

Read on to see what happens!

CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT: ENRAGED GIRLS







BUT
ONE
WORD
FROM
HER
BLEW
THAT
COM-
PLETELY
APART.

THAT
WAS HOW
IT WAS
SUPPOSED
TO BE!

YOU DID
REMOVE
IT FOR
US,
RIGHT?

I
THOUGHT
MY GAME
WAS
COMPLETELY
SAFE.

JUST A
METHOD OF
TORTURE,
LETTING
ME WATCH
MY FOES
TREMBLE IN
FEAR...

THESE
DOUBTS
GROWING
IN MY
MIND...

...I'VE GOT
NOTHING TO
WIPE THEM
AWAY WITH...



OR IS
ALL OF
THAT
JUST A
BLUFF?
IS THE
DEALER
IN ON
IT WITH
HER...?



HOW DID
SHE NOTICE
THE IRON
PLATE I HAD
INSTALLED
ON IT?



LET
RAISE A
CONCERN.
I'LL BE
ADMITTING
TO MY
TRICK.

I'VE BEEN
TRAPPED
BY MY OWN
CREATIONS!



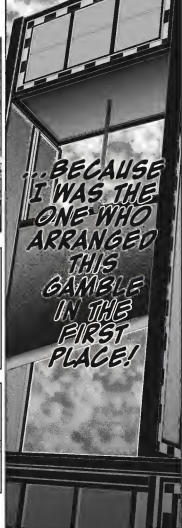
IKI-
SUUMA-
GAMI!

IT'S
TIME FOR
THE NEXT
TURN!



LET'S
DO IT,
MAG!

...?
yada!
YOU'RE
BROAT!



...BECAUSE
I WAS THE
ONE WHO
ARRANGED
THIS
GAMBLE
IN THE
FIRST
PLACE!



HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH

HEH
HEH

THIS...

THIS
IS SO
MUCH
FUN,
ISN'T
IT?!

EEP!

WE'RE ALL SHOULD- NOW I GET IT, YUMERO!
ING THE SAME RISK! I WAS WRONG!



おはよう

IT
SURE
IS!



...ZZZ...



WHY'RE
YOU STILL
CUTTING
STRINGS!?

THIS IS
CRAZY!!



...ALL
YOU HAVE
TO DO IS
REVEAL
IT AND
CANCEL
THE
GAME!

WHETHER
YOU'RE
BLUFFING
OR NOT...

IF YOU
NOTICED
THE TRICK
BEHIND
THIS...!



WHAT
...?

...THEY'VE
PUT THEIR
ENTIRE
HEARTS
INTO THIS
GAME...!

BUT
THEY'RE
NOT
DOING
THAT?

MUSHI-
SAMI-SAN,
PLEASE GO
AHEAD.

ALL
RIGHT,
MUSHI-
SAMI-
SAMA!
IT'S YOUR
TURN!

COULD
IT BE...

COME
ON!

WHAT
IS
GOING
ON
WITH
THIS
SCHOOL
?

IT'S
YOUR
TURN!

SNIF...

NGH...





COME
ON!

IF IT'S
NOT
YOU...

...THEN
WHO
THE
HELL'S
GONNA
GET
ME OFF
HERE!?

YOU AIN'T
QUITTING,
ARE YOU?

HUH?

YOU CAN'T
END IT AFTER
RILING US
THIS MUCH...



I'D
NEVER
LET
MYSELF
LOSE
TO THE
LIKES
OF
YOU!

DON'T—

DON'T
GIVE
ME
THAT
CRAP!!

YOU
DIRTY
LITTLE
PIECE
OF
TRASH!!

THAT
WORKS
JUST
FINE BY
ME...

I
LIKE
IT.

GA-
AAA!



HOW
CAN
THEY
BE SO
CASUAL
ABOUT
THIS....?

I
DON'T
GET
IT!



JUST
LIKE...

...THIS?

EH-
HEH-
HEH-
HA-
HAH!





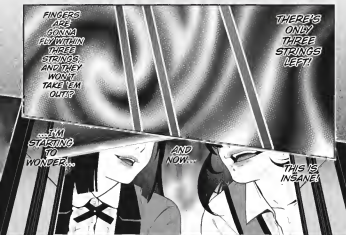
I
CAN'T...

THREE
STRINGS
LEFT!

YOU'RE
UP,
MUSHI-
BAMI-
SAMA!



WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?





IF IT
COMES
DOWN
TO
THE
LAST
STRING

...ARE
THEY
STILL

...

GONNA
KEEP
THEIR
FINGERS
IN
THERE...?







AND...

A KIND OF
GROWING
TERROR THAT
NOBODY CAN
WITHSTAND.

THE
KIND
OF
THING
...

...BUT THIS
"FINGER-
CUTTING
GUILLOTINE"
BECOMES MORE
TERRIFYING WITH
EVERY STRING
CUT.

...IF
THAT'S
THE
CASE...

A
PRIMAL,
PSYCHO-
LOGICAL
TYPE OF
REJEC-
TION.

...THAT
WOULD
MAKE
ANYONE
FLING
AWAY
THEIR
CONVIC-
TIONS...
THEIR
VERY
PRIDE.



**IT'S JUST
GETTING
FUN NOW,
ISN'T IT!?**

**...NOW
WE'RE
AT THE
ESSENCE
OF IT.**



WHAT'RE
YOU
WAITING
FOR?

NOW!

...AND
MAKE THE
TERROR
ALL THE
MORE
REAL FOR
US!!

TAKE
THOSE
SCISSORS
IN YOUR
HAND...

IF
THERE
WAS
SOMEONE
LIKE
THAT...

IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR A
HUMAN
BEING...

...TO NOT
REMOVE THEIR
FINGER AT THE
LAST STRING!

...THEN IT
NEGATES
THE VERY
ESSENCE
OF THE
MUSHI-
BAMI FAM-
ILY BUSI-
NESS.

BECAUSE
WHEN IT
COMES TO
TORTURE,
THE
MUSHIBAMI
FAMILY
PURSUES
TOTAL
PERFECTION.

**SHE'S
RIGHT!**



I
COULD
NEVER
LET
THAT
HAPPEN!

I
SWEAR
IT...

...BY THE
PRIDE
OF THE
MUSHI-
BAMIS!



EH-HEH-
HEH-HEH-
HEH-HAH
HAH!



THAT'LL
BE A
MISS.

WHEW...



...WE'RE
DOWN
TO TWO
STRINGS.





THAT
SIMPLY
HAS TO
HAPPEN!

ONCE
WE'RE
DOWN TO
ONE STRING,
YOU WILL
TAKE YOUR
FINGERS
OUT!



IT'S
THE VERY
FOUNDATION
OF THE
MUSHI-
BAMIS!

Aaa...

THE SHEER
TERROR
INVOLVED IS
UNCAPABLE

TO NOT
TRIP
SO
ABOUT
A MISTAKE
EVEN



PICK
THE
WRONG
ONE...
AND
LEAVE A
SINGLE
STRING
LEFT!

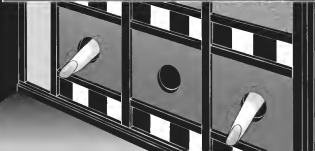
PICK
THE
WRONG
ONE!

I...
LOVE
IT...



WHA
—?









IKUSHIMA-SAMA IS DISQUALIFIED FOR BREAKING THE RULES AND CUTTING TWO STRINGS.

MUSHI-BAMI-SAMA REMOVED HER FINGER, PUTTING HER OUT OF THE MATCH.

**...I
DECLARE
YUMEKO
JABAMI-SAMA TO
BE THE
WINNER!**

THUS...



JABAMI-SAMA IS
HEREBY
AWARDED
TWO
CHIPS!

WHAT
THE
HELL
ARE
YOU
DOING
!?

WHAT
...



NGH!

LOOK,
YOU...

I
CAN'T
...

WHY DID
YOU GET
TWO AT
ONCE
...!?



WHY
THE
EFF DID
YOU SET
IT UP
SO WE
CAN'T
CUT
ANY
FINGERS
!?



YOU
...
YOU
PIECE
OF
CRAP
!!

GIVE
THIS
BITCH
A PIECE
OF YOUR
MIND
FOR ME,
YUMEKO!

AND YOU
SCREWED
WITH
BOTH
OF US
INSTEAD!



AND
HERE
...

...I
WAS GONNA
DO IT WITH
YUMEKO,
FINALLY!

...I
WAS
...



HEH?

DO...

DO YOU
HAVE ANY
IDEA WHAT
YOU JUST
DID?

W-
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

LIKE...

I DIDN'T
BOARD ALL
THE RISK,
JUST LIKE
YOU SAID!

IT WAS A
TWO-TO-ONE
CHANCE.

**YOU'RE
THE
PIECE
OF CRAP
HERE,
IKI-
SHIMA-
SAN.**



IT'S LIKE A
MIRACLE
ENGINEERED
BY GOD!

AND
WAITING
AT THE
END...

...20-TO-1
ODDS GOT
PARED
DOWN TO
A COIN
FLIP.

THANKS
TO A
STRING OF
COINCIDENCES...

...WAS THE
ULTIMATE
CHOICE FOR
ALL OF
US...!



...AND
TRAMPLED
ALL OVER
IT.

...YOU TOOK
THAT FINAL
MOMENT...

A black and white manga panel showing three girls in a hallway. One girl is sitting on a bench, looking distressed, while two others stand nearby, one looking at her. The scene is set in a room with large windows.

NONE OF
THAT WAS
SCARY
AT ALL...

THE FEAR
THAT IT
COULD
ACTUALLY
HAPPEN...

THE
IDEA OF
FINGERS
GETTING
MANGLED
...

A large, high-contrast black and white close-up of a girl's face, showing her eye and mouth. She has a determined or perhaps angry expression.

IT'S TOO
ANNOYING.

A hand holding a dark, octagonal sign with a white border. The sign has text on it.

I
NEVER
WANT
TO SEE
YOUR
FACE
AGAIN.





!?

CORRESPONDENT-
LY...

WHEN I
HEARD THE
RULES...

BUT WE
PROCEEDED
ALONG
WITHOUT
INCIDENT,
RIGHT?

...THE
DESK THE
GUILLI-
TINE WAS
ON HAD
A RATTLE
TO IT.

...I THOUGHT
IT'D SUCK IF
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT
IRON PLATE
WAS PUT IN
THERE.



RIGHT!

ONE
OF THE
STOPPERS
WAS
BROKEN...

...SO I TOOK
THEM ALL OFF
TO FIX THE
BALANCE!



...**"REMOVED"**
THE RUBBER
STOPPERS
FROM THE
DESK FOR
US.

THAT'S
BECAUSE
YAMATO-
SAN, THE
DEALER...





...WANTED
YOU TO
FEEL THE
SAME
THING
WE DID.

MY
APOLOGIES
FOR SAYING
SOMETHING
THAT WAS
MISLEADING.

I
JUST...



MUSHI-
BAMI-
SAN...

AND IT
MADE
ME ACT
LIKE...
THAT?



THAT'S FOR
ALL...?



...YOU
SHOWED
TO US
IN THE
END...

THOSE
LOFTY
CONVIC-
TIONS...



THEY
WERE
WONDER-
FUL!

I HOPE
WE CAN
GAMBLE
TOGETHER
AGAIN
SOMETIME.
♡



...ARE
GOING
TO
DEVOUR
EACH
OTHER.

THIS GIRL
UNDoubtedly
BEARS
THE BLOOD
OF THE
MOMOBAMI
FAMILY.

AND
WITHOUT
A
DOUBT...

HOW?

YURIKO-
SAMA...

...HAS
LOST.



...ALL
OF US
HERE,
AT THE
ACADEMY

...



TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT CHAPTER!

KAKIGURU

— Complete Gambler —

Homura Kawamoto
Toru Naomura

Translation: Kevin Gifford

Lettering: Anthony Quintessenza

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